

THE RANDALL COUNTY NEWS.

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FINE NEW WEST POINT CHAPEL.

Costing \$420,000.—Dedicated Sunday, June 13th.—Gothic Style of Architecture.

New York—A party of army officers of high rank stationed at the posts near this city went to West Point last Sunday morning to be present at the dedication of the new chapel just erected by the government at a cost of \$420,000.

The new chapel is situated on a summit overlooking West Point and is now one of the most striking features of the sky-line along the Hudson river. It is reached by a winding roadway from the parade grounds, and the chaplain's quarters adjoin the building at the southeast.

The military Gothic style of architecture has been carried out by the designers. The building is fire proof throughout and seats about 1000 persons. A Sunday school hall is situated in the basement.

The inside length of the chapel is approximately 200 feet and the total width 53 feet. The height from door to vault is 58 feet, and to the top of the tower above the first story 130 feet. It is built of local granite, trimmed with Indiana limestone, and the interior is lined with buff bricks and vaulted with Guastavina tile. Inside, over the principal arches are niches which will some day be filled with statues of famous soldiers.

The somewhat remarkable, if not significant, part of this item that impresses the many readers of the News, is the idea that one of the largest military schools of this country if not of the world, in which it is supposed that nothing but war and all of the horrors of war are taught, should advocate and secure from the government such a vast appropriation to secure a suitable edifice in which to hold divine worship for an army graduate. It only is a more convincing fact that the world is growing better.

Panhandle Fireman Board Meeting.

The executive board of the Panhandle Fireman's Association met in Canyon City the first of the week and arranged the programme for the second annual meeting of the association which is to be held at Plainview on the 23rd, 24th and 25th of August.

Hon. W. H. Fuqua of Amarillo will address the firemen and present a first prize trophy cup, for which the several departments will compete each year according to the reel racing rules by the State Fireman's Association.

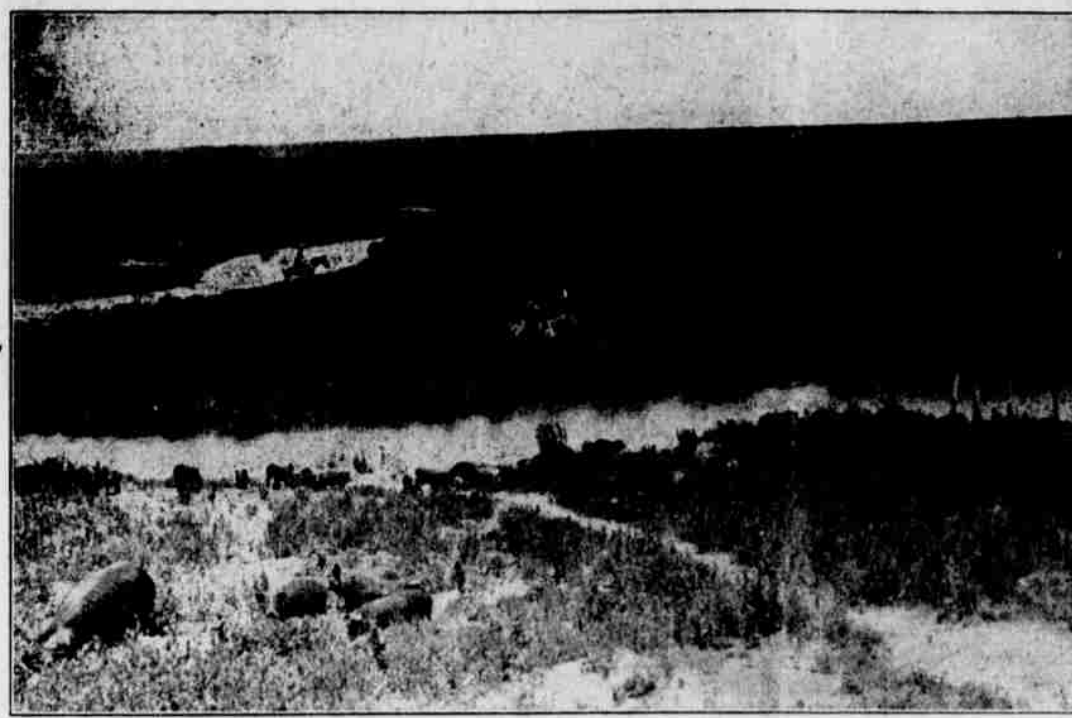
The Plainview fire department offer a chief's trumpet as a second prize in this contest. They also offer a cash prize of \$65.00, for the best running and coupling race and a second prize of \$35.00 for next.

The address of welcome will be delivered by Hon. J. R. DeLay Mayor of Plainview, and a response by Tom L. Miller, President of the Association.

On the evening of the first day the delegates and visiting firemen will be entertained with a banquet to be given by the hook and ladder division of the Plainview department. A dinner will be given the second evening under the auspices of the hose department and on the third evening, a smoker will be given.

The Mayors of all incorporated towns not having an organized fire department, are requested to attend and will be entitled to a seat in the convention.

All departments in the Panhandle are urged to send delegates to this meeting and all departments entering racing teams are requested to communicate with R. W. Thacker, Secretary, Canyon City, Texas.



Some Hogs in Alfalfa in Randall County.

Raising Alfalfa in the Panhandle.

It is only a few years since some venturesome spirits advanced the theory that alfalfa might be raised on Texas land without irrigation. Perhaps ten years would cover the time when not a single blade of alfalfa could be found in the northwestern Panhandle part of the State. Since then many experiments have been tried; some of them successful from the start and others proving repeated failures. But alfalfa seems pretty well rooted now in the Panhandle portion of Texas, judging from the report of a correspondent of the Dallas News.

Very little alfalfa is found in the eastern and central parts of the state, and its growth is confined principally to the trans-Canadian part of the Panhandle where some of the best alfalfa can be found in the State, while near and south of Amarillo, in the vicinity of Canyon and south until the Plainview country is reached, alfalfa is of the very best grown in the state.

Alfalfa is adapted to deep, mellow, well drained soil containing an abundance of lime. The soil and climate here have proven to be just the thing for proper production of alfalfa and the lands, especially those along the creeks and rivers in Randall County which are sub-irrigated, produce that fine quality of hay which is much desired for feeding purposes. It does not grow so much to the stem but produces the fine product, so much desired by all feeders.

Meadows on these sub-irrigated lands are producing from 4 to 6 tons per acre yearly of this fine feed. The uplands, while not so productive for alfalfa as the sub-irrigated lands, have shown that they are profitable and on an average will yield from 2 to 3 tons per acre besides yielding the finest kind of pasture for hogs, cattle, horses and mules, and it might be stated, in fact any of the domestic animals including fowls.

If proper conditions do not prevail the sowing of alfalfa would not be advisable unless the conditions could be made suitable by proper drainage, fertilizing, liming of the soil. In some instances alfalfa does not succeed on account of the lack of the proper bacterium in the soil which forms tubercles on the roots of plants and facilitate the absorption of nitrogen from the atmosphere. This trouble may be corrected by inoculating the soil with some dirt secured from a field in which alfalfa has been growing successfully. Only a few bushels of earth would be required to inoculate several acres.

In various parts of the Panhandle, small areas are found that are sub-irrigated and these lands are being put into this valuable

crop rapidly. Thus far it has proved to be more profitable with less labor than any other crop attempted. There is every reason to believe that the Panhandle country will not only supply its own demands for this valuable forage, but will ship alfalfa by the train loads into less favored communities within a period of a very few years. Not only will this Northwest Panhandle country of Texas be selling hay, but some of the purest alfalfa seed furnished the market will come from this section also.

Alfalfa.—This is one of the most valuable plants we have, and it should be grown on every farm adapted to it. Considering its present market value, it, undoubtedly, is considered by some, too valuable to use as pasture, but in localities where it is made into hay, it can be used to an advantage as a green forage crop, cutting it and putting it in the silo, or cutting and hauling it fresh every few days for the dairy cows.

One of the advantages of alfalfa growing in the Panhandle is found in the impetus given to hog or swine raising. Every alfalfa grower should have his drove of hogs and by grazing them at the proper time on his alfalfa fields, he has them ready for market at slight expense. Panhandle grown hogs fattened on alfalfa have taken the top prices at Ft. Worth, and premiums at many exhibits.

It is estimated that the Panhandle has over 25,000 acres in alfalfa. Among some of the leading counties that is found growing this valuable crop can be mentioned Randall County, 3,000 acres; Deaf Smith, 1,000; Hale, 2,500; Willbarger, 2,000; Dalham, 2,000 and other counties have 500 acres and over. These estimates are minimum and do not include new fields.

This climate is peculiarly adapted to the curing and putting up of this excellent forage crop from the fact that nights are cool, and refreshing breezes that usually blow at night, keeps it from moulding even when it becomes wet with rain, which happened the first of the week.

Nowhere has the writer seen a more pleasing sight than the alfalfa harvest that has been going on during the past ten days. It looks good enough for human food, such a bright green colored sweet-scented forage, it is not to be wondered that domestic animals get excited when this staple crop is exhibited to them.

B. F. Teague of Austin, candidate for State Comptroller, stopped in Canyon Tuesday, looking after his political fences, getting acquainted with his democratic friends in this locality. Mr. Teague was a caller at the News office. We are pleased to make his acquaintance and hope to see him again.

WILL SPEAK IN AMARILLO

Cone Johnson Will Deliver Address at That Place On June 22nd

Hon. Cone Johnson, candidate for governor, will speak in Amarillo on June 22nd, at 8 o'clock p. m. The Johnson Club of Amarillo have received letters from Mr. Johnson's state manager to the effect that he will present his claim for governor at the hour above named. As Mr. Johnson's time for the Panhandle is limited he will not speak at many points, and his friends will make an effort to induce the railroads to make reduced rates for his Amarillo speech. His friends claim that he not only makes a great speech, but in such way as not to offend the supporters of any other candidate; and for which reason every one should hear him.

Wheat Samples Shown are Good.

On Tuesday Ed Gibson exhibited at the News office some samples of wheat grown in his neighborhood, some four miles southwest from Canyon City. These samples measure some thirty inches high, good heads and will easily produce sixteen bushels to the acre. In making the calculation on this field of ninety acres of wheat, the sample heads really figure out about twenty bushels, but the stand is not of uniform thickness all over the field which cuts down the general average. However it is a fine looking field of wheat and will be ready to harvest in about another week.

Daubing Material 40 Cents Per Gallon Higher Than Year Ago.

The cost of paint, not the variety that comes in a little porcelain jar and is used by women in general to delude the public, nor paint of the nose kind, but paint—regular paint, the kind that makes the old house new; gives mother a cramp in her arm doing over the dining room to save hiring a painter, has raised considerably in price.

Along with the other advances in the cost of living goes paint, which is certainly a household necessity. This includes varnish as well as the humble house paint. The advance is something like 40 cents per gallon, which makes painting one's suburban home this spring a luxury to be thought of.

The Standard Oil Company, which controls all the oil used in making paint, including turpentine and linseed oil, together with all crude oils, is to blame for the increase in this particular branch of the cost of living.

The reason as given by the Ft. Worth paint dealers for the decided raise in the price of raw materials is the scarcity of old seed. The winding up of the old crop of seed finds insufficient supplies to fill contracts. There

has been an advance since the beginning of the year 1910 in paint of about 20 cents. This, added to a previous advance of 20 cents prior to 1910, makes the increase cost about 40 cents on the gallon.

Birthday Surprise.

On last Wednesday afternoon Miss Nerva Hicks was surprised very pleasantly at her home on West Normal Ave., by a number of her young school girl friends. The affair was given in honor of her thirteenth birthday. The young ladies had a most enjoyable afternoon. One of the principle mirth producing features was the pinning on of the donkey's tail. Other youthful games were indulged in which were enjoyed by all. After presenting her with a number of tokens of their esteem in commemoration of the event, elegant refreshments were served.

Commissioners Court Adjourns.

After a continuous session of over a week as a board of equalization and after completing for the time being, their labors as such, they adjourned on Wednesday afternoon until June 27, when it is expected that they will reconvene as a board to hear causes, why some property values should not be increased. It might be stated, too, that there were only 13 persons who placed an undervalue on their property in Randall County and on which the Commissioners made an increase.

New Theatre Opened.

Monday night the Shadowland Theatre opened its doors to the public with a free show. The house was filled to overflowing and the people seemed to enjoy the pictures. The management of the Theatre is putting in a nice lot of scenery and when it is completed will be equal to stages of much larger towns than Canyon.

J. W. Schaeffe of Vinton, Iowa, arrived in Canyon last Friday and was calling upon old friends. The reporter for the News had the pleasure of making Mr. Schaeffe's acquaintance. He seemed very well pleased with the looks of the country, while it was not as wet and cold as he found the country to be north, he found it ideal weather for curing alfalfa hay, and he never saw better looking alfalfa hay and put up better than he saw here, all of which was bright and put up in first class shape, all being baled.

On Wednesday afternoon when Mr. Maxwell was passing through Canyon with what appeared as part of a railroad grader's outfit, considerable excitement was displayed among the anti-workers that were in existence around the square. The thought came home to a number as to the days when this same gentleman graded the line west and the line that is extended south to the prosperous city of Lubbock. A number had not heard of another railroad being constructed in this locality, but the graders were before their eyes and this all convincing evidence was not enough to satisfy their curiosity so a delegation interviewed some of the men in charge of the caravan, and were informed that they were through with the contract south of this place and were now on the way to Mr. Maxwell's ranch to commence wheat harvest next week as he had some 1400 acres to harvest.

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CONDITIONS OF TEXAS CROPS

Comparison with 1909.—Crop Conditions Encouraging.—Production of Wheat and Oats Largest in Several Years.

As its first general report on the crops of Texas for the current season, the News presents the individual reports of 700 correspondents written on June 8th, which reports, as a rule, show very encouraging condition and prospects in respect to the various crops now growing or in process of harvesting.

While the crop is spotted in every district of Texas, reports by districts present an unusual uniformity of condition. Much of the crop appears to be late, although in every district there are areas where the growth is normal or earlier than usual. Recently the weather has as a rule, favored growth of plant, and it is reported to be improving rapidly. In nearly every part of the State the ground is better conditioned and contains more moisture than it did last year. There are some localities, however, which report too much rain or the reverse. The crop, upon the whole, appears to be unusually free from insect pests although, as is common at this season, lice are reported in some sections and boll weevils have appeared in some of the southern counties, without as yet inflicting material damage. The stand, as a rule, is good.

Conditions in the western districts are somewhat better than in the east. Labor is plentiful supply, except in a few localities, and the crop is well cultivated.

Texas has almost completed the harvest of the greatest wheat and oat crops of record for several years and is anticipating the largest corn crop in the history of the state. More than 95 per cent of the 700 reports on these crops speak of an increased acreage, of bumper yields of wheat and oats and more than average condition and stand for corn. The almost total failure of these crops in many sections of the state last year offers an unsatisfactory basis for comparison, and in many instances the correspondent answered the question as to acreage and percentage by stating that the acreage was largely increased, the stand perfect and the prospects for the best yield for many years, depending only upon average conditions the balance of the season. Wheat and oats are out of danger. Most fields have been cut and the grain is ready for the thrasher. Corn is safe in the extreme southern part of the state, but from ten days to two weeks backward throughout the northern and northwestern sections. Rains are needed in Central and eastern Texas, as well as in North and Northwest Texas to continue present prospects but many report that one more good wetting is necessary to insure an average yield, or a crop, compared with last season, fully 100 per cent better.—Dallas News.

Supt. Cousins is Coming.

R. B. Cousins, ex-State Superintendent of Public Instruction and president of the West Texas Normal at Canyon City, is to be in the city and be the chief speaker on the program being prepared by the Woodman of the World for the picnic on the Fourth of July. The invitation which was extended him has been accepted and he will be here without fail. Mr. Cousins is one of the best known speakers in the state and is a most talented gentleman. The Woodmen and their friends are assured of a treat in his speech.—Amarillo Daily News.